

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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R 042257Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8501

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24: AUSTRALIAN,
NORWEGIAN AND YUGOSLAV COMMENTS

1. ON AUGUST 4, MISOFF DISCUSSED STATE OF PLAY ON PUERTO RICO IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH AUSTRALIAN MISOFFS REID AND FORRESTER AND NORWEGIAN MISOFF BERGH JOHANSEN. REID REPORTED THAT C-24 CHAIRMAN SALIM (TANZANIA) TOLD AUSTRALIAN PERMREP HARRY ON JULY 29 THAT HE SAW POSTPONEMENT AFTER DEBATE ON PUERTO RICO AS SOMETHING HE COULD "GO ALONG WITH." REID INTERPRETED THIS TO MEAN SALIM WOULD NOT OPPOSE POSTPONEMENT; HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT SALIM COULD VOTE FOR IT.

2. FORRESTER REPORTED THAT YUGOSLAV C-24 REPRESENTATIVE PAVICEVIC HAD TOLD HIM ON AUGUST 4 THAT, IN SPITE OF RECENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN THE US AND YUGOSLAVIA, HE DID NOT RPT NOT THINK YUGOSLAVIA WOULD ATTEMPT TO ATTACK THE US ON PUERTO RICO IN THE C-24. PAVICEVIC ALSO SAID, ACCORDING TO FORRESTER, THAT THE CUBANS TOLD HIM THEY HAVE NOT AS YET MADE ANY DECISION ABOUT HOW TO
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APPROACH PUERTO RICO IN THE C-24 AND ARE AWAITING

THE OUTCOME OF THE NON-ALIGNED MEETING.

3. BERGH JOHANSEN ALSO INFORMED US OF A CONVERSATION HE HAD WITH PAVICEVIC. HE SAID THAT IN PAVICEVIC'S VIEW, ON THE BASIS OF RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE C-24, POSTPONEMENT FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO IS NOT JUST A POSSIBILITY BUT WOULD CARRY BY A LARGE MAJORITY. PAVICEVIC IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT ONLY SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE C-24 WOULD OBJECT TO POSTPONEMENT. PAVICEVIC TOLD BERGH JOHANSEN THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO BUT THAT IN THE EVENT OF ANY IMPLIED THREAT BY THE UNITED STATES, HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY INFORM BELGRADE AND STRONGLY RECOMMEND OPPOSITION TO POSTPONEMENT.

4. BERGH JOHANSEN SAID THAT PAVICEVIC HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY TO USUN MISOFF THAT BELGRADE IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT THEY PERCEIVE TO BE AN "ANTI-YUGOSLAV" MOOD IN THE UNITED STATES. HE SAID THAT THE GOY RECOGNIZES THAT US FOREIGN POLICY IN AN ELECTION YEAR IS SOMEWHAT UNPREDICTABLE BUT IS, NEVERTHELESS, SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS "ANTI-YUGOSLAV" MOOD. HE SAID THAT YUGOSLAV ATTITUDES ON PUERTO RICO AND GUAM WILL DEPEND TO A GREAT EXTENT ON THE POSITION WE ADOPT VIS-A-VIS YUGOSLAVIA. NO ONE OTHER THAN THE SOVIET UNION BENEFITS, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID, FROM THE PRESENT PROBLEMS.
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